

be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule: Committee on National Security; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GREENE of Utah). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

ORDER OF CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS AND POSTPONING VOTES ON AMENDMENTS DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3322, OMNIBUS CIVILIAN SCIENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during consideration of H.R. 3322, pursuant to House Resolution 427, following disposition of the amendment offered by Representative WALKER or his designee and specified in House Resolution 427, the following amendments or germane modifications thereof be considered in the following order and notwithstanding their amending portions of the bill not yet read for amendment: An amendment offered by Representative SCHIFF regarding National Science Foundation funding; amendment No. 3 by Representative GEKAS; amendment No. 7 by Representative THORNBERRY; amendment No. 22 by Representative TRAFICANT; an amendment offered by Representative ROEMER regarding endocrine disruptors; an amendment No. 2 offered by Mr. CRAMER; amendment No. 14 by Representative LOFGREN; and amendment No. 8 by Representative BROWN of California, following disposition of which committee shall resume consideration of the bill pursuant to House Resolution 427.

Further, I ask unanimous consent that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any of these amendments to the bill, or any amendments thereto. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, may reduce to not less than 5 minutes the time for voting by electronic device on any postponed question that immediately follows another vote by electronic device without intervening business provided that the time for voting by electronic device on the first of any series of questions shall be not less than 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. COOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COOLEY. Madam Speaker, on welfare reform Bill Clinton has performed one shameful flip-flop after the next. During the 1992 Presidential campaign, candidate Clinton promised to end welfare as we know it. President Clinton never offered any serious welfare reform program. There was never even a vote on welfare reform when the Democrats controlled the Congress during the first 2 years of his Presidency. Clinton on the record opposes the idea of allowing governments to pursue their own welfare programs, saying there is a danger that some States will get into a race to the bottom.

When the Republicans led the Congress, we kept our promise and sent Bill Clinton a bill that would genuinely reform welfare. We not only sent it to him once but we sent it to him twice, and he vetoed it both times. Madam Speaker, I think we need to look at welfare reform very seriously and offer the American people a new program that will truly, truly revise welfare.

BLOATED CONGRESSIONAL MILITARY BUDGET

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Madam Speaker, you would think that my Republican colleagues have learned their lesson. Over the past year, the American people have expressed their outrage over the 1996 congressional military budget which gave the Pentagon \$7 billion more than they asked for. Well, Madam Speaker, here we go again. This year the Republican led Congress has decided to give the Pentagon \$13 billion more than what it asked for. Maybe my Republican colleagues did not get the message. Why don't they use the extra \$13 billion on environmental programs which their 1997 budget cut by 19 percent. Or maybe they could use the money to provide student loans to the 2.5 million young people who will have their student loans reduced under the Republican budget.

Madam Speaker, we know that our military budget is much larger than the military budgets of all of our enemies combined.

So, since there is no country—or, even group of countries that poses a credible threat to our national security, on behalf of the American people I must ask if the real threat the Republicans fear is a foreign power, or the wrath of the defense industry.

OMNIBUS CIVILIAN SCIENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 427 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3322.

□ 1425

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3322) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for civilian science activities of the Federal Government, and for other purposes, with Mr. BURTON of Indiana in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WALKER] and the gentleman from California [Mr. BROWN] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WALKER].

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 6 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to bring before the House H.R. 3322, the Omnibus Civilian Science Authorization Act of 1996. This bill provides fiscal 1997 authorizations for the National Science Foundation, NASA, the U.S. Fire Administration in FEMA, NOAA, the research programs of EPA, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the research programs of the Federal Aviation Administration, and the earthquake hazards reduction program. This legislation provides 5 percent or \$285 million more in basic research spending than the Clinton administration budget.

This chart to my left indicates the basic funding research and shows that we are higher in funding the fundamental science of the country than what the Clinton administration budget calls for.

In addition, this bill calls for \$3.7 billion for environmental science including \$1.25 billion for the global climate change programs, and it ends corporate welfare. In short, this represents a sound and responsible approach to the funding of our Nation's Federal civilian research and development efforts.

The legislation authorizes \$19.3 billion for fiscal year 1997. The President's request for these programs is \$20.3 billion.

We provide \$3.2 billion for the National Science Foundation, a \$31 million increase over fiscal year 1996, plus \$26 million for basic research grants and \$25 million for South Pole environmental and safety renovations.

We provide \$13.5 billion for NASA, including full funding for the space station, an increase in space science and life and microgravity research and \$1 billion for the missions to planet Earth.

We provide \$27.6 million for the U.S. fire administration. The President's request is that same number.

We provide \$1.37 billion for what are called the dry programs of NOAA, including full modernization of the National Weather Service, \$100 million for basic climate change research, and a complete project authorization for the